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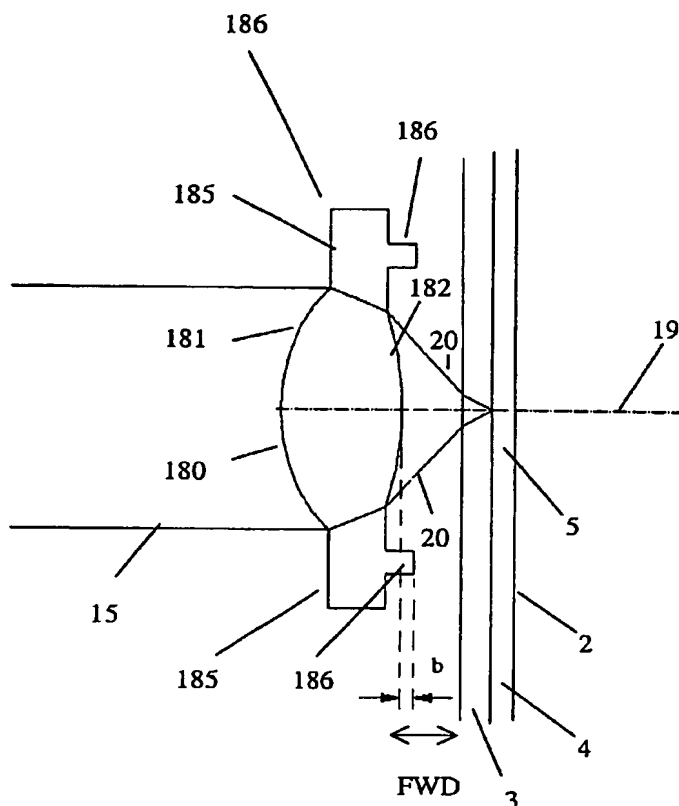
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SCANNING DEVICE INCLUDING AN OBJECTIVE SYSTEM WITH A LENS PROTECTION DEVICE



(57) Abstract: An optical scanning device (1) for scanning an information layer (4) of an optical record carrier (2), the device (1) comprising a radiation source (11) for generating a radiation beam (12, 15, 20) and an objective system (18) for converging the radiation beam on the information layer, the information layer being covered by a transparent layer (3) of thickness t_d and refractive index n_d . The objective system comprises a lens having a protection device projecting away from the lens towards the optical record carrier such that the distance between the protection device and the optical record carrier is less than the free working distance. The lens satisfies the condition: where D is the entrance pupil diameter, FWD is the free working distance, and D , FWD , t and t_d are all expressed in millimeters and where $FWD + t_d/n_d < 0.51$.

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

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Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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